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means of meeting the situation. Among various suggestions offered were the possibility of publicity through general magazine articles, and consultation with the Professional Training Section of the A. L. A. in the hope of securing a larger place for the study of children's work in the curriculums of the various general library schools. It was decided that a committee, with Miss Clara Herbert as chairman, be appointed for further consideration of the problem.

A nominating committee consisting of Miss Jones, Miss Hunt and Miss Power were appointed to name incoming officers.

The meeting was then adjourned.

SECOND SESSION

The second session of the section was held in the Auditorium on Friday evening, when Mr. Franklin S. Hoyt, editorial supervisor of Houghton Mifflin Company, read a paper on

PROBLEMS IN THE PRODUCTION OF BOOKS FOR CHILDREN, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SOME WIDER NEEDS

(See p. 282)

In the discussion following, much enthusiasm was expressed for Mr. Hoyt's suggestion of an advisory committee to publishers, and the sentiment of the meeting was that the Committee on the Production of Children's Books act in this capacity. Mr. Bowker recommended that the committee allow its name to be used by a publisher in instances where the committee had urged the publication or republication of a book.

COLLEGE AND REFERENCE SECTION

The College and Reference Section met on Thursday evening in the ball room of the New Monterey hotel, with a large and interested audience, Mr. M. G. Wyer, of the University of Nebraska, presiding.

The opening paper was by Mr. William Teal, of the John Crerar Library, on

THE ARRANGEMENT AND BINDING OF BRITISH

BLUE BOOKS

(See p. 177)

The general discussion of the war collections of different libraries, including the

The discussion then turned upon the present lack of good children's books dealing with life and customs in foreign lands, particularly those countries which have figured so prominently in the recent war. Dr. Zelenko offered his help in the selection of Russian children's books suitable for translation.

The following resolution was adopted at this meeting:

Whereas, There has been undertaken for the fall of 1919, by the American Booksellers Association, a plan for a Children's Week, when a joint effort will be made to bring more and better books for boys and girls into American homes;

RESOLVED, That this Association expresses its sympathy in such effort, and suggests that local librarians offer hearty coöperation where the local bookseller is putting forward the right class of books.

Mr. Tony Sarg, owner and producer of the Tony Sarg Marionettes, then spoke about his work, describing the construction of the marionettes, and his selection of plays for them.

The final meeting of the section was held on Saturday morning. Miss Julia A. Hopkins and Miss Caroline Burnite were appointed to serve with Miss Herbert on her committee. Officers elected for the coming year were as follows: Chairman, Miss Elizabeth Knapp, Detroit Public Library. Vice-chairman, Miss Alice I. Hazeltine, St. Louis Public Library; secretary, Miss Adah F. Whitcomb, Chicago Public Library. The meeting was then adjourned.

EMILY B. MEIGS,
Secretary *pro tem*.

preservation of war materials, was opened by Mr. H. H. B. Meyer of the Library of Congress, who spoke as follows:

When the various collections acquired by Dr. Putnam during his stay in Europe are received at the Library of Congress, there will be in its possession upwards of 50,000 volumes and pamphlets relating to the European war.

The collection is particularly rich in documentary or source material. The exceptional position of the Library of Congress as the National Library in the closest direct relationship with the publishing

offices of all governments throughout the world, and enjoying exchange relationships with learned institutions equally widely diffused, makes the acquisition of such material relatively easy, although the Library of Congress like other institutions has suffered grievously through the breakdown of transportation facilities during the war.

It is fair to say that the Library of Congress is aiming at practical completeness in its collection of printed matter relating to the war. American publications are acquired as a matter of course through the operation of the copyright law; other publications are acquired by gift or purchase. All the more important catalogs and bibliographies are being checked and items not in the Library of Congress are being acquired as rapidly as possible.

It is difficult at this time, while the collection is in process of formation, to make exact statements concerning any particular class of material. For example, the collection of camp and trench papers is widely representative of soldier authorship and editorship in practically all the belligerent countries, and presents a body of material illustrating as nothing else can the mental attitude of men of all races and nations at war under modern conditions. Those who have handled such material know how unsafe it is to say that the file of any newspaper is complete, but from actual examination of files received we know that there are many extensive runs if not complete files.

The collection of prints, including posters, is very extensive, our prints division giving special attention to the acquisition of this material. As a matter of course the collection is rich in the issues of our own Government, and hardly less complete are the French, English, Italian, Dutch, and Belgian; with promise of large German collections which are on the way.

The extent of the music collection is well-nigh overwhelming. Only about half the titles acquired could be printed in the check list issued a year ago.

In the treatment of this sudden and enormous influx of material the Library of Congress scheme of classification was found easily expansible. Those who are familiar with its use of letters and numbers combined know that current history takes the last numbers under each lettered section with nothing beyond to block the way. That part of the scheme as worked out for the history of the European war, extending from D 501 to D 659, has been mimeographed and is available for distribution.

It should be said at the outset that the collection is not being kept together as a collection on the history of the European or world war. The books and pamphlets therefore classed in D 501 to D 659 represent only a part of the collection, only the most strictly historical literature. Documents, for instance, which continue previously existing series are not separated from the earlier issues, even though they relate wholly to the war. Classes representing subjects especially of a social, economic, or political character take war literature when the subject interest is paramount, in preference to D 501 to D 659. Dependence is placed on the subject headings and cross references to point out all the material on any particular aspect of the great struggle. As was naturally to be expected the subject headings for such a mass of new material presented new problems. These as far as they have been worked out are printed in the "European war. Preliminary list of subject headings" and are available for distribution to a limited extent.

What is being done to make this material available? Old methods of bibliographical treatment are found inadequate. Dr. Richardson of Princeton has experimented with photostatic reproduction of collections of cards and other entries with startling results. Whatever may be said of his method as applied to books, pamphlets, or periodical literature, it certainly offers an ideal method of cataloging collections of stamps, paper money, tokens, medals and similar material difficult to describe in the ordinary terms of cataloging.

In the division of bibliography we have made a special effort to collect all bibliographies and reading lists on the war and have noted 416. These constitute an extensive bibliography of bibliographies of the war and have been mimeographed under the title "List of bibliographies relating to the European war," and are available for distribution.

A "Check list of the literature and other material in the Library of Congress on the European war" was published in the summer of 1918, and sufficient titles have been accumulated for a supplement as large as the first list, which contained about 20,000 entries. It is hoped ultimately to throw these title-a-line entries into a classified list.

In closing it may not be amiss to direct attention again to the Library of Congress system of interlibrary loans whereby this material is made available to scholars all over the country through the agency of local libraries.

Mr. H. M. Lydenberg, of the New York Public Library, described what that library had accomplished regarding collection of war material, in the following remarks:

In collecting books on the European war, our object in the reference department of the New York Public Library has been to secure what past experience has shown will be the kind of material present and future scholars and investigators may reasonably expect to find in a library such as ours. We have not aimed at completeness—primarily because our funds forbade. We wanted to get source material for the student of the cause of this eruption, of the conditions that prevailed before its outbreak or during the storm, of how the events as they unrolled from day to day impressed the spectator. We have left to our English friends the production of such bibliographies on the great war as Messrs. Lange and Berry have given us, and to France the making of "complete" collections of all printed matter relating to the conflict, such as are now growing in Lyons and Paris. We have, to be sure, printed in each issue of our monthly *Bulletin* since 1914 a list of our recent accessions in this field, but these lists have pretended to be nothing more than "contributions to a bibliography."

Expressed in figures it is safe to say we now have something over 16,000 titles, exclusive of our official documents (of which, of course, the greater part issued since 1914 relate to this topic in some degree) or serials. There are about 4,900 pamphlets bound in pamphlet volumes and about 4,300 separate volumes classified under "European war, 1914-1918" as a subdivision of European history. Under such headings as "naval history," "aeroplanes," "diplomatic history," "international law," etc., we have about 6,800 additional titles.

In our public catalog under "European war" the cards number 16,840, and under related headings we have about 1,500 additional titles.

Our Slavonic division includes some 486 volumes and pamphlets in Slavonic languages on the war, and the catalog of this division contains 1,240 titles that touch the topic. In our Jewish division we have 40 volumes with 100 entries in the catalog relating specifically to the war. This material is supplemented by the Jewish press of the war period, represented by some 350 volumes, most of them published in this country. About half of this number are in Yiddish, including 100 volumes

of daily papers. The rest consists largely of weeklies published in English, besides a few periodicals in French, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, and Russian. For our Oriental division we have been unable to secure, despite repeated efforts, anything printed in the vernacular of Arabia, Turkey, Persia, or other countries of the East.

In our map room we have about 190 maps, 2 atlases, and a collection of 41 large base maps, published by the American Geographical Society in connection with the House Enquiry.

Our art division has about 100 reproductions of posters mounted in a scrapbook of sample posters, several hundred newspaper and periodical clippings classified under "Uniforms," 300 to 400 clippings on other phases of the war, and 1,500 photographs issued by the Committee on Public Information in Washington. Our posters number 3,500, 2,500 American and 1,000 foreign.

In our divisions of economics, technology, science, we have collections of clippings, and, of course, in each of these groups there are few clippings of recent date that do not more or less remotely relate to the war. Economics has in its file about 15,000 clippings and 1,000 pamphlets, exclusive of those entered under such related headings as reconstruction (600), government control (900), food conservation (900), etc. Technology and science have each several hundred.

The war has undoubtedly affected the national music of all the belligerents. We have, however, not succeeded in securing any marked expression of its effect on the music of the European participants. Our music division includes several British song books of soldiers songs, etc., and a few French, and German. For its effect on our own country we have nothing more to show than some 250 "patriotic" songs published mainly in New York City.

It is not our practice in ordinary cases to bind and preserve more than one or two typical newspapers from foreign countries. Since the outbreak of the war, however, we have set aside all our foreign newspapers as a contribution to history, and these papers amount to some 180 titles or 20,000 separate numbers.

Coincident with the commencement of hostilities there came, of course, a flood of periodicals on the subject, some pictorial, some an expression of current opinion in caricature, others a more or less serious attempt to study conditions from the point of view of history, economics, sociology, or some other form of human thought. We have made a collection of a

few of the more important or more striking titles of this kind and have some 48 titles or 1,730 separate numbers.

When it comes to the classification of material of this kind our experience indicates that the present day is not the time for minute classification. Under "European war, 1914-1918," as a division of European history, we have but 13 subdivisions, namely,

- History and description
- Bibliography
- Essays, addresses, sermons
- Poetry and drama
- Fiction
- Posters, proclamations
- Economic aspects
- Peace terms
- American participation
- Influence and results
- Medical affairs; Red Cross
- Aerial operations
- Trench and camp activities.

Though we classify our books broadly as they stand on the shelves we classify the subject cards in our public catalog very minutely, there being some 116 separate subject divisions under the heading of "European war, 1914-1918."

Our experience with pamphlets points most eloquently to the inadvisability of letting any pamphlet reach the shelves until it has been bound, preferably in a volume with other pamphlets sufficient in number to bring it up to a thickness of one or two inches.

Our posters have all been mounted on muslin, an expensive process to be sure, but one that is absolutely necessary if posters are to be kept or used. We have not yet reached what we feel is an ideal or final system of classification for posters. It is, of course, obvious that the first classification is one by nationality, and, under the nation issuing the poster, a broad grouping by subject or object. It is obvious also that Red Cross posters, recruiting posters, finance posters, etc., be kept together, but after any such grouping there remains a large number of miscellaneous posters that refuse to be classified in any satisfactory way. We have simply accepted this fact and deferred the solution of the problem.

Mr. Barr of Yale said that the history faculty of that university had initiated the efforts toward a collection, and early in the war a blanket order was given which later had to be canceled. Since 1916 the material purchased was limited to source material for future historians.

As in other universities, Yale has received considerable from its alumni. Among the posters are a notable number of Russian and Polish.

Professor J. D. Ibbotson, of Hamilton College, spoke of what a small college could do. It purchased source books of permanent value, current histories in different countries, and the more valuable personal narratives especially for students. Everything that came in as gift was kept as illustrating for future years national psychologies and different types of propaganda. Mr. Ibbotson suggested that the most important books are yet to be published.

Mr. A. J. Wall, of the New York Historical Society, then spoke as follows:

The most striking feature to me of the collection and preservation of war literature was the quick impulse of the librarians all over the country to note the necessity and desirability to preserve at once every scrap of data relating to the great war. During the time of our neutrality, little was heard of such collecting, but no sooner had the United States taken part in the conflict when questions as to collecting and preserving war literature began arriving in our daily mail. This widespread interest shaped the activities of local historical societies, confining them to gathering mostly local data and in the case of New York, the task was an extremely large one. I know of no historical society in the east that has been able to do more than collect such posters, circulars and leaflets as appeared in their locality. The many-sided interests which were occasioned by the United States entering the war made an enormous amount of published material necessary of which the New York Historical Society has collected a representative assortment of the whole. We made no effort to collect foreign posters. Through my local draft board I was able to secure specimens of all circulars, cards, rules and regulations used by the board in enforcing the selective service draft law, together with the posters in many languages calling attention to the draft law. The operation of that law will be of special interest to future historians. Newspapers published by the various Army divisions were difficult to get and required constant attention in keeping their sequence.

Now as to making this war literature available, I have made four divisions, post-

ers, circulars and leaflets, pamphlets, and books. We adhere strictly to books which deal with America's participation in the war and consider every title desirable, but at present choose only the works of authors with actual war service, personal narratives, and administration of affairs. In determining a practical classification and available arrangement, I have considered only the matter of how this material is likely to be called for by the student and author. It is probable that a few may attempt a general history of the war, but the majority of authors will write up certain phases such as Submarine warfare, The cause of the war, German atrocities, aviation, the different battles, liberty loans, war work service, prisoners of war, censorship, economics, the parts played by the different nations engaged, the peace and League of Nations. It seems to me therefore, that under these headings the pamphlets might be expeditiously arranged and temporarily at least placed in pamphlet boxes and marked in group headings.

The posters must be mounted if they are to be of use and their classification, as far as American posters are concerned, suggests their own sequence: Recruiting, liberty loans, war drives, war reliefs.

The circulars and leaflets I have placed in large manila envelopes and follow the same classification with these as with posters, adding perhaps a few group headings such as educational war activities, books and lectures, commercial interests, war gardens, and food conservation.

As to other war collections, I consider some of the smaller objects, such as the sleeve band with the letters "N. A." (National Army) worn by the men going to camp as interesting mementoes, as well as the sleeve bands of the liberty loan workers. Items such as these often escape attention and are lost to posterity, numerous as they were.

Considering other small objects brings in the matter of buttons. Well, the New York Historical Society has some buttons and we are collecting more. That is, the military buttons of the present war worn by the different war organizations, both officers and enlisted men, as well as those of the war workers, Y. M. C. A., K. C., American Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc. This subject may upon first thought seem a rather trivial matter, but upon reflection we find that it holds considerable significance, especially when contrasted to the military buttons of the revolutionary war. We have at the New York Historical Society a small group of men two of whom

in particular have devoted thirty-five years of their life in spare time to excavating historical camp sites of the revolutionary war and war of 1812. A little metallic disk which claims no better name or respect than that of a button, is the last tangible reminder of the armies of men who fought for freedom and changed the destiny of nations. And if the military buttons of the revolution hold a charm on account of their associations with the lives of men who did great things, surely those of the Army of to-day will hold a place in our museums for the part played by the men who changed the destiny of the world.

Closely associated with the buttons are the metal insignia worn on the collars of the uniforms, the various hat cords and campaign ribbons. The New York Historical Society is interested in making a collection of these items in order to preserve the smaller details of the uniforms of the Army and Navy. It is a strange but true fact that the various uniforms worn in the revolution by the American, British, French and Hessian have not been correctly depicted by the artists of the past. Each state raised regiments which were equipped with uniforms entirely distinct from the other and they were changed to meet conditions they encountered. These facts have come to light only after years of patient research and infinite detail study upon the examination of the records not only in this country but in England, France, and Germany as well, and I know of only one man, Mr. Charles M. Lefferts of New York, who can correctly paint the revolutionary soldiers in every detail. I have recently arranged to have Mr. Lefferts make a series of these pictures for the New York Historical Society as far as his researches have taken him. This also affects the statuary erected everywhere representing revolutionary events. The sculptor was unable to model in all its details the dress of the men of the revolutionary war, unless he had made the study I have just mentioned.

You may see therefore why the interest in collecting these smaller objects has appealed to me so much in the present war.

The speakers were followed by several who discussed the question from the floor, especially Dr. Andrews, of the John Crerar Library, Mr. Bishop of the University of Michigan, and Mr. Van Hoesen, of Princeton University.

In the matter of preservation of war material, Mr. T. F. Currier, of Harvard

College Library, presented the following statement of information assembled as the result of a questionnaire sent out by a committee of the American Library Institute:

To a poster questionnaire of February 14, 1919, the A. L. I. Committee received approximately sixty-five responses. Eleven reported collections of from 1,000 to 3,500 posters, sixteen reported from 500 to 1,000, and seventeen from 250 to 500.

Because of the great expense of mounting and storing it does not seem wise for libraries to plunge rashly into attempts to make complete collections. At the Atlantic City meeting of the Institute it was suggested that from two to four complete collections would be sufficient for this country. Certainly in the interest of economy neighboring libraries should not rival each other in this undertaking. There is however considerable interest in a moderate sized and carefully selected collection, first because of its historic value and second because of the artistic importance of the war poster.

A highly valuable and interesting contribution to the study and technical treatment of the poster has been made through the energy of Dr. Richardson of Princeton University. He has produced a series of photostatic reproductions (black and white) of the Princeton collection. They have been made in two sizes, the first reduced to about $1\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ inches and issued on $11\frac{1}{2} \times 15$ sheets, each sheet containing thirty-two reproductions. These sheets can be folded once and bound into a convenient volume. The volume and a first supplement, containing some 2,300 reproductions, with cumulated printed index, may be purchased bound, though I understand the number is limited. The second size of photostatic reproduction offered by Princeton is that of the standard catalog card. It should be made clear that Princeton is not undertaking this service as a commercial proposition but it is intended for libraries who are in the habit of cooperating in cataloging matters and as a matter of cooperative cataloging service. Select reproductions are also furnished in sets of eight at a slight advance of price.

A carefully worked out classification scheme for posters has been made by Dr. Wilson of Clark University, and I understand that arrangements are under way to add the Wilson number to the Princeton photostatic reproductions. This should be immensely helpful in handling such of the

large collections as have not yet been classified.

There is a general unanimity in advising immediate mounting if the collection is to be considered permanent. The costs reported run from fifty cents to one dollar a sheet. Folding and dissecting should be resorted to only as extreme measures. If collections must be stored previous to mounting, they should be laid out flat.

Manila folders form the most usual method of storing, and these in turn are frequently kept in portfolios, shallow drawers, or cabinets with sliding shelves. Dr. Wilson has used inexpensive shallow boxes. They are made of a combination of pasteboard and wood and are very durable. One correspondent has tabulated the useful sizes as 15×20 ; 22×32 ; 31×43 ; 42×62 with an extra size 32×48 for certain French posters.

Much data was gathered as to the existence of duplicate collections and sources of supply. The author of the present report will be glad to correspond with those desiring this information unless indeed the College and Reference Section desires to include it in the printed proceedings.

Mr. Meyer in his talk aroused much interest by the following remarks regarding a universal catalog:

The idea of a universal catalog—a catalog which shall record all books and pamphlets ever printed—has appeared, like an ignis fatuus, to the minds of librarians and bibliographers of imagination, ever since the invention of printing. At first a possibility, each year has added its output to the mass of material to be handled, until now its bulk is so great, as to stagger the minds of the directors of any institution, even though endowed with wealth "beyond the dreams of avarice." Merely to suggest such an undertaking is to invite an inquiry concerning the sanity of the proposer. And yet perhaps, an inquiry may be permitted to determine whether the universal catalog does not, like other creations of mankind, possess features, which are unessential as well as essential, useless as well as useful, and to what extent the unessential and useless can be eliminated, and still preserve the essential and useful.

But, it will be said, as soon as you begin to eliminate you destroy the universality of the catalog, and your proposition comes to nothing. True, in a way, but the insistence upon this feature of universality is a kind of bugbear which at the outset stands in the way of the whole undertak-

ing. The greater part of a universal catalog would be a record of material unessential, useless, and not worth recording. The practical man of affairs, who in the ultimate analysis would have to foot the bill for any undertaking of this kind, as soon as he discovered the worthless character of the greater part of the material being recorded, would take steps to stop it, and properly so.

If, on the other hand, the record was confined to the essential and important publications, it would immediately attain the maximum of usefulness possible to its extent, and each addition to the record or catalog would increase that usefulness. But what constitutes an important publication, who is to decide? The question admits of a very simple answer: a book or pamphlet is important as soon as it is asked for or inquired about. University and large public libraries constantly, and other libraries on occasion, are making inquiries concerning the whereabouts of publications needed by their readers and investigators. No one will question that these have attained importance. Much correspondence is indulged in, and much information secured, which is used for the immediate occasion, and then lost sight of. If this information could be accumulated at some central point, like the Library of Congress, it would soon constitute a record such as is referred to above, with the additional most valuable feature of being a union catalog as well.

If we had at the present moment a catalog of all the important books in the United States, showing what libraries possessed copies, it would be of incalculable value to American scholars, at a time when they are being called upon as never before to carry on the world's investigations.

Such a catalog at present is only a tantalizing dream, but perhaps it need not remain so. We have the nucleus of such a catalog in the Library of Congress in the "Union catalog" located in the corridor adjoining the division of bibliography. It consists of cards sent to us by the New York Public Library, John Crerar, Harvard University, Boston Public Library and a few others, arranged in an author alphabet. Much familiarity with its contents leads to the conclusion that the selection of cards has been somewhat haphazard. Also that it records such facts as, that all these great libraries possess copies of McMaster's History of the people of the United States, a matter of such common knowledge that it needs no recording. Again there are frequently five or six

cards for the same book, each representing a copy in a distinct library. By eliminating all but one card for each book, and indicating on that card the names of libraries which possess copies, and by throwing out all unnecessary cards, room can be made for cards representing important books in other libraries.

To a limited extent the Library of Congress can already answer the question, "Where can a certain book be found," and it can do so without the necessity for a voluminous and intricate correspondence. The response to an inquiry concerning the whereabouts of a certain book would be the return to the inquirer of a copy of the card in the "universal catalog." This would show him what libraries possessed copies and it would rest with him to negotiate with the library nearest to him for the use of the book.

If the method outlined above for making additions to the "universal catalog" were systematically pursued and the catalog were thus thrown open to the cards of all libraries, it would not be long before it would become in fact, as well as in name, a universal catalog. The success of such an undertaking is largely dependent upon the extent to which other libraries are willing to cooperate in sending their cards to the Library of Congress. To a certain extent this cooperation is insured by the use which other libraries would make of the universal catalog.

This brings us naturally to the question: What will happen if the book in question is not in the Library of Congress catalog or in the universal catalog? Is the inquiry to end, so far as the Library of Congress is concerned, with the statement that it does not know where a copy is to be found? It is not impossible that the Library of Congress attempt to pursue the inquiry beyond this point, and undertake to locate a copy. This could probably be done if such inquiries were limited to the actual needs of scholars, and trifling inquiries of little significance to anyone were excluded.

We have already accumulated at the Library of Congress a considerable store of information concerning the special collections to be found in American libraries, and perhaps there is no point from which an inquiry of this kind could be sent out with so little waste of effort and loss of time. Further, this part of the inquiry could also be pursued without a voluminous and intricate correspondence. Author, title and imprint of the work in question could be placed upon a card bearing the printed request: "If you know

where a copy of the above is to be found, please write the name of the library on this card and return it to the division of bibliography, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C."

This, if sent to the most likely libraries, would secure the information in immediately usable form, and result in furnishing to the inquirer a card bearing the names of libraries having copies.

The advantage of centering these inquiries in one place is obvious. The information gained is not for a single inquirer, to be used once, and then lost sight of, as has been the case heretofore. It becomes part of a general reservoir of such knowledge, to be drawn upon by all scholars who may be interested.

We know from actual experience the value of the results to be obtained from such inquiry systematically carried out. As an instance, we were asked by the Carnegie Peace Foundation for information concerning certain rare editions of Grotius not in their collection, and not in the Library of Congress. By pursuing a method of procedure practically like that outlined above, we secured complete bibliographical descriptions of these editions, and located copies in a number of American libraries.

The plan here outlined for securing information to be added to the common store of the universal catalog, and of disseminating this information, is so simple that

it will at once become part of the common knowledge of all working libraries, and will be pursued by them as a matter of pure routine, with the feeling that one of their burdens has been materially lightened, and a service commensurate with the needs of American scholarship is being rendered.

Dr. M. L. Raney, librarian of the Johns Hopkins University, as chairman of the Committee on Importations, closed the evening's session with an account of his negotiations and the results up to date of his trip to Europe to interview book agents. The audience had been in expectation of this report of the Committee on Importations (see p. 330) and were not disappointed either in results or in Dr. Raney's descriptions.

The section voted its appreciation of the work of the Committee on Importations in general and of the zealous interest and public service of Dr. Raney in furthering the interest of American libraries.

Mr. Charles J. Barr of Yale was elected to serve with Mr. G. P. Winship and Dr. A. H. Shearer as a committee for the section for next year.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING SECTION

The tenth annual meeting of the Professional Training Section met on Wednesday afternoon, with Mrs. Harriet P. Sawyer presiding, the theme of the meeting being library training along new lines and specialized library training.

Mr. Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale University, opened the meeting with a paper on

ADVANCED LIBRARY TRAINING FOR RESEARCH WORKERS

(See p. 165)

Mr. Keogh's paper was discussed by Mr. Walter, Mr. Reece, Dr. Johnston, Mr. George and Miss Donnelly. Mr. Walter thought that the university was better able to give the advanced work and bibliographic instruction than the library schools. Mr. Reece said that the "open courses" offered in New York did not cover

this need but were designed to permit those engaged in library work to refresh themselves with further instruction. Some of the conclusions based on a questionnaire sent to college libraries to find out how much demand there would be for this advanced training were given by Miss Donnelly, who said that these conclusions would be published in full in the near future.

Miss Julia A. Hopkins, principal of the training class, Brooklyn Public Library, described a plan for training assistants as worked out in that library, the title of Miss Hopkins' paper being

A NEW PLAN FOR TRAINING LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

(See p. 167)

Miss Morgan outlined the methods of training that had been adopted to meet